

## Acer negundo / Prunus virginiana Forest

COMMON NAME	Ash Leaf Maple / Choke Cherry Forest
SYNONYM	Box Elder / Chokecherry Forest
PHYSIOGNOMIC CLASS	Forest (I)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBCLASS	Deciduous forest (I.B)
PHYSIOGNOMIC GROUP	Cold-deciduous forest (I.B.2)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBGROUP	Natural/semi-natural (I.B.2.N)
FORMATION	Temporarily flooded cold-deciduous forest (I.B.2.N.d.)
ALLIANCE	<i>Acer negundo</i> Temporarily Flooded Forest Alliance

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL 1

USFWS WETLAND SYSTEM Upland

### RANGE

#### *Globally*

This community is found in Montana, Wyoming, and western South Dakota.

#### *Jewel Cave National Monument*

A single mappable stand of this vegetation type was found in the bottom of Hell Canyon just north of the National Monument.

### ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

#### *Globally*

This community is found in mesic situations, usually near streams or rivers.

#### *Jewel Cave National Monument*

This community occurs in the bottom of Hell Canyon on alluvial soil adjacent to a small stream, and on adjacent lowermost slopes.

### MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES

#### *Globally*

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
Tree canopy	<i>Acer negundo</i>
Tall shrub	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>

#### *Jewel Cave National Monument*

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
Tree canopy	<i>Acer negundo</i>
Tall shrub	<i>Prunus virginiana</i> , <i>Cornus stolonifera</i>
Short shrub	<i>Ribes</i> spp., <i>Rubus idaeus</i> , <i>Symphoricarpos occidentalis</i> , <i>Rosa</i> sp.

### DIAGNOSTIC SPECIES

#### *Globally*

*Acer negundo*, *Prunus virginiana*

#### *Jewel Cave National Monument*

*Acer negundo*

**USGS-NPS Vegetation Mapping Program**  
**Jewel Cave National Monument**

---

**VEGETATION DESCRIPTION**

*Globally*

This is an early successional community dominated by *Acer negundo*. *Populus tremuloides* may also be found. Tree density may be moderate to high. Shrubs are common and vary from short (<1 m) to tall (>2 m). *Prunus virginiana* and *Cornus stolonifera* are common.

*Jewel Cave National Monument*

This community is dominated by *Acer negundo* in the canopy and subcanopy. In the single mappable stand, both strata had canopy coverages estimated at 10 to 25%. The tall shrub stratum is dominated by *Prunus virginiana* and *Cornus stolonifera*, with coverage estimated at 10 to 25%. There is substantial short shrub cover (estimated at 25 to 50%), with *Ribes* spp., *Rubus idaeus*, *Symphoricarpos occidentalis*, and *Rosa* sp. most common. Herbaceous cover is relatively sparse (less than 5%) but species-rich, with both graminoids and forbs significant.

**OTHER NOTEWORTHY SPECIES** Information not available.

**CONSERVATION RANK** G3

**RANK JUSTIFICATION**

**DATABASE CODE** Cegl000628

**COMMENTS**

*Globally*

This is an early successional community that is poorly described across its range.

**REFERENCES**